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RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHLM #1560 3231043  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 191043Z NOV 07  
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7209  
INFO RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0114  
RUEHAN/AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO 0005  
RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 0028  
RUEHDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI 0002  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 7525  
RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0013  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 4131  
RUEHTO/AMEMBASSY MAPUTO 0051  
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0075  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 1573  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0130  
RUEHPL/AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS 0519  
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0062  
RUEHYN/AMEMBASSY SANAA 0020  
RUEHVT/AMEMBASSY VALLETTA 0032  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 2456

UNCLAS COLOMBO 001560

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/INS, SCA/RA, AND AF/RSA JUN BANDO  
ADDIS ABABA FOR USAU

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EWWT MARR PREL MV

SUBJECT: MALDIVES FEEDBACK ON EAST AFRICA SOUTH WEST INDIAN OCEAN  
MARITIME SECURITY CONFERENCE

REF: SECSTATE 145423

¶1. (U) Econoff thanked Maldives for their participation in the 2007 East Africa South West Indian Ocean Maritime Security (EASWIO) Conference, and discussed reftel with Maldives Ministry of Transport and Communication's Director of Ports and Maritime, Mohamed Latheef. Latheef led the five-person Maldives delegation to the conference. Latheef said that the Maldivian delegation found the conference valuable, and that Maldives looks forward to participating in future EASWIO meetings.

¶2. (SBU) Latheef responded to reftel para C queries as follows:

¶A. The most beneficial course of the conference was the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) facility audit.

¶B. Maldives' two priorities in regards to technical assistance in maritime security and safety are to develop its human resources in the area of maritime security, and to assist the organization of the South Asia Regional Port Security Corporative (SARPSCO) Conference. The Conference is expected to be held in Male' in 2008.

¶C. The greatest progress Maldives has made in strengthening its maritime security is the implementation of the ISPS Code in Maldives.

¶D. The next EASWIO meeting should be organized into technical working groups.

¶E. The conference can be improved by inviting operational level candidates instead of high-ranking officers.

BLAKE